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## NOTES ON RED CROSS NURSING

MANY nurses seem to feel it a great responsibility to enroll for Red Cross service, for the reason that they are expected to answer emergency calls at short notice. It will be seen under the information for enrollment of nurses in New York State (paragraph 2) that nurses unable to respond to the first call because of a professional engagement must signify their willingness to respond to a later call at a definite date. This might possibly have been worded with even more elasticity because, of course, the Red Cross would never demand that a woman should leave a responsibility which required her personal attention even though the emergency were great, but it is of the utmost importance that the committee should have a large list of nurses to call upon, so that in an emergency there would always be some that could respond to the first call.

The New York committee has also decided to enroll dietitians for hospital service. Miss Corbett, the dietitian of the Department of Charities in New York City, was suggested for membership on the Nurses' Committee, in order that proper rules might be compiled for the enrollment of dietitians.

It may be of interest to know that the California Branch now has one hundred and eighty-eight nurses enrolled; the District of Columbia has thirty-seven nurses enrolled; and the New York State Branch now has twenty-one nurses enrolled, and one dietitian; and has eight or more applications which have not yet been considered.

In order to arouse greater interest in Red Cross nursing it has been suggested that the subject should be introduced into the training schools of New York State, that the pupils shall be properly instructed in the history of the Red Cross movement, its development in the different countries of the world, and the important place that nurses are to occupy if the Society is to attain to its full extent of usefulness.

No better subject is before the alumnae associations for winter study than that of the Red Cross. Lectures can be arranged for or printed matter secured by sending to the different state headquarters or to the office of the National Red Cross in Washington, District of Columbia.

We give below rules for enrollment in New York, also resolutions adopted by the Executive Committee of the American National Red Cross, October 18, 1907, all of which is instructive and suggestive for alumnae programs.

Enrollment costs nothing and it places the volunteer in the honor

class of nurses. We should have five thousand Red Cross nurses in the United States before the end of the coming year. Do it now.

#### ENROLLMENT OF NURSES

**AUTHORITY.**—The enrollment of nurses in the New York State Branch is under the joint authority of the State Nurses' Committee and the subdivisions, subject to the general regulations of the national organization.

**SERVICE AND REMUNERATION.**—Enrolled nurses are called upon for services in the order of their enrollment. Nurses unable to respond to the first call, because of a professional engagement, must signify their willingness to respond to a later call at a definite date. They may be either volunteer or paid. The remuneration for paid service is the same as in the United States Army—forty dollars (\$40.00) a month in the United States; fifty dollars (\$50.00) in foreign countries, together with transportation and maintenance.

**NO FEE.**—There is no fee for the enrollment of nurses.

**MEMBERSHIP OPTIONAL.**—The Red Cross nurse may also become a member of the American National Red Cross by joining the local branch, for which dues are one dollar (\$1.00) a year. The membership is, however, entirely optional with the nurse.

**APPLICATION.**—Nurses desiring to be enrolled for Red Cross service should apply by letter to the office of the "New York State Branch of the American National Red Cross, No. 500 Fifth Avenue, New York City," or to the secretary of their local subdivision, asking for a copy of the "Rules for the Enrollment of Nurses" and for an "Application Blank."

**RULES FOR ENROLLMENT.**—These rules require (1) State registration; (2) references; (3) minimum age limit of twenty-five years; (4) physician's certificate of health; and (5) approval by a member of the Nurses' Committee after personal interview. If these requirements can be fulfilled, the nurse should fill out the application blank fully and explicitly and return with the papers required by the rules to the State office.

If the other requirements are satisfactory, the nurse will receive notice to call upon a member of the Nurses' Committee.

**CONTRACT AND CERTIFICATE.**—Having received this final approval, the nurse will be given a nurse's agreement to sign and a certificate as a Red Cross nurse. Enrollment as a Red Cross nurse holds good, subject to the renewal of physician's certificate of health every two years, until the nurse files notice in writing of withdrawal from enrollment.

**THE NURSE'S BADGE.**—At the time of enrollment, every Red Cross nurse is given a Red Cross nurse's badge, the number and name engraved on the back. Under the Act of Congress incorporating the Red Cross, this badge cannot be worn by any one else. The badge is owned by the American National Red Cross, and at no time becomes the property of the nurse. It should be worn on the front left hand side of the collar. In case of withdrawal from enrollment, the Red Cross nurse's badge and certificate must be returned.

**THE BRASSARD.**—The Red Cross brassard consists of a red cross on a white arm band, and is worn on the left arm. The brassard can be worn only in time of official active service in the field. Brassards are furnished and owned by the American National Red Cross.

**THE ENROLLMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE NURSES.**—Superintendents of experience may enroll for administrative work under the same general rules as those which govern the nurses. A special blank will be furnished for such enrollment.

#### APPLICATION FOR GENERAL NURSING SERVICE

1. Name in full:
2. Address:
3. Telephone number:
4. Age:
5. School:
6. Date of graduation:
7. Are you registered and in what state?
8. Do you enroll for paid or volunteer nursing services in the Red Cross?
9. What experience have you had since graduation, in private, institutional or district nursing; in sanitary inspection, in epidemics, and in investigation for giving discriminate relief?
10. References.

#### RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL RED CROSS, OCTOBER 18, 1907.

WHEREAS, By international agreement in the Treaty of Geneva, 1864, and the revised Treaty of Geneva, 1906, "the emblem of the Red Cross on a white ground and the words Red Cross or Geneva Cross" were adopted to designate the personnel protected by this Convention, and

WHEREAS, The Treaty further provides (Article 23) that "the emblem of the Red Cross on a white ground and the words Red Cross or

Geneva Cross can only be used whether in time of peace or war, to protect or designate sanitary formations and establishments, the personnel and material protected by this Convention," and

WHEREAS, The American National Red Cross comes under the regulations of this Treaty according to Article 10, "volunteer aid societies, duly recognized and authorized by their respective Governments," such recognition and authority having been conferred upon the American National Red Cross in the Charter granted by Congress, January 5, 1905, Sec. 2, "The corporation hereby created is designated as the organization which is authorized to act in matters of relief under said Treaty," and, furthermore,

WHEREAS, In the Revised Treaty of Geneva, 1906, in Article 27, it is provided that "the signatory powers whose legislation should not now be adequate, engage to take or recommend to their legislatures such measures as may be necessary to prevent the use by private persons or by societies other than those upon which this Convention confers the right thereto of the emblem or name of the Red Cross or Geneva Cross,"

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the American National Red Cross requests that all hospitals, health departments and like institutions kindly desist from the use of the Red Cross created for the special purpose mentioned above, and suggests that for it should be substituted some other insignia, such as a green St. Andrew's Cross on a white ground, to be named the "Hospital Cross," and used to designate all hospitals (save such as are under the Medical Departments of the Army and Navy and the authorized volunteer aid society of the Government), all health departments and like institutions, and, further,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Executive Committee of the American National Red Cross likewise requests that all individuals or business firms and corporations who employ the Geneva Red Cross for business purposes, kindly desist from such use, gradually withdrawing its employment and substituting some other distinguishing mark.



"With angels therefore sing again,  
To God on high all glory be;  
For peace on earth bestoweth He  
And showeth favor unto men."